(3) Construction of Tourist Bungalow at Mathura.

(4) Construction of Yatri Niwas at Allahabad.

(5) Construction of Forest Lodge at Dhangiri.

(6) Purchase of Mini Buses.

The State Government has been requested to furnish more information and justification before the proposals are processed for financial assistance.

(c) The Department does not allocate funds State-wise. Proposals received from States are considered on the basis of availability of funds and *inter-se* priorities. However, during the calendar year 1985, the Department has released an amount of Rs. 68.98 lakhs for the following projects:

1. Improvement of Varanasi Ghats.

2. Tourist Complex at Sravasti.

3.Winter Sports Scheme at Auli-Joshimath.

4. Master plans for Fatehpur Sikri Brijbhooml, Saravasti and Kushinagar.

5. Fatehpur Sikri Tourist Complex.

**Inspection of Shriram Food and Fertilizer Factory**

2987. SHRI J. P. GOYAL Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that soon after the Bhopal Gas tragedy in December, 1984, a British expert was invited by the Delhi Administration to inspect the Shriram Food and Fertilizer Factory at Najafgarh Road, Delhi, who after Inspecting the plant had suggested that it be immediately shifted from the thickly populated area of Najafgarh Road;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which the suggestion of the British expert was ignored; and

(c) what are the names of the persons responsible for not taking a decision in the matter and what action is proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): (a) to (c). Early in February, 1985, a British expert on Chemical Safety who was present in India in connection with an International Symposium, alongwith technical officers of Factory Inspectorate of Delhi made an informal visit to Shriram Food and Fertilizer Limited (SFFL) at the invitation of Delhi Administration and submitted a Report. Since the Report of the Expert was based on a hurried and informal study of the unit. If Governor, Delhi set up a Committee of Experts to go into the existing safety and pollution control measures, coverjng all aspects such as storage, manufacturing and handling of chlorine in Shriram Food & Fertilizers Ltd. Delhi. The Expert Committee submitted its report on SFFL on 18th September, 1985 and made Certain recommendations. The Delhi Administration are taking steps to get these recommendations implemented.

**Melting of coins by unscrupulous persons**

2988. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that coins are being melted by unscrupulous persons in the country to manufacture certain item of handicrafts and utensils;

(b) whether this is one of the reasons for the shortage of coins; and

(c) what effective measures Government proppse to take to curb the tendency of melting coins by such persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Unconfirmed reports have been received from various parts of the country regarding melting of coins for making of costume jewellery utensils etc. The matter is being investigated.

(c) The Small Coins (Offences) Act 1971 empowers the Government to take legal action against any person who melts or destroys small coins. Instructions to the Various State Governments/ Union Territories have been issued to take action in the light of the Small Coins (Offences) Act 1971, under report to this Ministry, immediatey whenever melting of coins for any purpose is reported. No such report has been received so far. In addition, steps have been taken by Government to keep the face value higher than the metal value of the coin so as to make any large scale meeting of coin for any commercial purpose economically not viable.

**Suspension of officers of Punjab and Sind Bank of Jalandhar area on account of fictitious truck advances**

2989. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 385 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st August, 1984 and state:

(a) whether the managers and officials of the Punjab and Sind Bank, Jalandhar area branches have since been placed under suspension on account of their involvement in truck scandal cases;

(b) whether all these fictitious truck loans were sanctioned by the then Zonal Manager, Amritsar, Mr. H. S. Nanda and that no action has been taken against him and as a reward he has been transferred to a bigger zonal office, *i.e.* Chandigarh; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to investigate into the involvement of the Zonal Manager, Mr. Nanda in the truck advance cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and, to the extent available and permissible under the provisions of the statutes governing banks and the customs and usages prevalent amongest bankers, will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Unauthorised advances by the Juhu branch of Punjab and Sind bank, Bombay**

2990. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Juhu (Bombay) branch of Punjab and Sind Bank has made unauthorised advances during 1980 to 1983 to the tune of Rs. 50 lakhs to different parties out of which a lot of persons are untraceable and seem to be fictitious;

(b) whether it is a fact that advances meant to be given to weaker sections, under DRI scheme have been given to such persons who do not come under this scheme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that branch managers responsible for these acts have been transferred to some other branches in the same capacity and no. action has been taken against them;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what steps are being taken to investigate the matter for taking necessary action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Punjab & Sind Bank has reported that during the period 1980-83, the Managers posted at Juhu (Bombay) Branch had made advances beyond their discretionary powers, amounting to approximately Rs. 20 lakhs. The Bank has also reported that some parties are not traceable now.

(b) The Bank has intimated that no case has come to its notice where advances under DRI Scheme has been given by its Juhu (Bombay) Branch to persons who did not come under this Scheme.

(c) to (e) The Bank has reported that the Branch Managers have been transferred to other branches in the same capacity. It has initiated disciplinary action against one of the Managers for his acts of omission and commission at